

Appl. No. 09/528,254
Amendment dated September 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed May 10, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1 1. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective
2 control, comprising:
3 an application program with which a user is actively engaged;
4 means for determining the apparent affective state of the user;
5 and
6 means for changing the ~~operation~~ output of the application
7 program responsive to the apparent affective state of the user.

1 2. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective
2 control as in claim 1, wherein said means for determining the
3 apparent affective state of the user comprises a means responsive to
4 ~~at least one of user autonomic indicators and the facial expressions~~
5 of the user.

1 3. (Original) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein said application program comprises means of
3 user input.

1 4. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective
2 control as in claim 3, wherein said means for determining the
3 apparent affective state of the user comprises a means responsive to
4 ~~at least one of user input characteristics and input content~~ of said
5 user input.

1 5. (Original) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 3, wherein said user input is text.

Appln. No. 09/528,254
Amendment dated September 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed May 10, 2004

1 6. (Currently Amended) An information system under affective
2 control as in claim 5, wherein said means for changing the operation
3 of the application program comprises means for marking ~~changing~~
4 the appearance of text input by the user if the apparent affective
5 state of the user indicates that ~~the text input output~~ by the ~~user~~
6 application program should be marked.

1 7. (Original) An information system under affective control as
2 in claim 1, wherein said application program is a program for
3 transmission to others of text composed by the user.

8. (Cancelled)

1 9. (Currently Amended) A method of processing text
2 indicating the emotional state of the writer at the time of writing,
3 comprising the steps of:
4 (a) accepting text input from the writer;
5 (b) determining the apparent emotional state of the writer;
6 (c) marking the appearance of at least a portion of the text
7 accepted from the writer if the apparent emotional state of the
8 writer indicates that the text should be marked; and
9 (d) outputting marked text, thereby indicating the apparent
10 emotional state of the writer.

1 10. (Original) The method of processing text as set forth in
2 claim 9, wherein said step of determining the apparent emotional
3 state of the writer is performed by monitoring at least one of the
4 writer's text input characteristics, text content, writer autonomic
5 indicators and the facial expressions of the writer.

Appln. No. 09/528,254
Amendment dated September 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed May 10, 2004

1 11. (Original) The method of processing text as set forth in
2 claim 9, wherein said step of accepting text input from the writer
3 comprises receiving text manually input by the writer into a text
4 input device and said step of determining the apparent emotional
5 state of the writer is performed at least in part by determining the
6 force used by the writer in manually inputting text into the input
7 device.

12. through 18. (Cancelled)

1 19. (Currently Amended) An information system, comprising:
2 an application program for engaging by a user;
3 means for monitoring factors relating to an emotional state of
4 the user; and
5 means for changing the operation of the application program
6 responsive to the emotional state of the user;
7 wherein said means for changing the operation of the
8 application program comprises means for changing the appearance
9 of text input by the user if the apparent affective state of the user
10 indicates that the text input by the user should be marked.

1 20. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the
3 emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring
4 characteristics of text inputted into the application program by the
5 user.

21. through 22. (Cancelled)

Appln. No. 09/528,254
Amendment dated September 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed May 10, 2004

1 23. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 20 wherein the means for monitoring characteristics of text inputted
3 includes means for monitoring appearance characteristics of the
4 inputted text indicating the emotional state of the user.

1 24. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the
3 emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring
4 characteristics of creation of a document by the text inputted by the
5 user.

25. through 28. (Cancelled)

1 29. (Previously Presented) The information system of claim
2 19 wherein the means for monitoring the factors relating to the
3 emotional state of the user includes means for monitoring
4 characteristics of the user as the user inputs text into the
5 application program.

1 30. (Currently Amended) The information system of claim 29
2 wherein the means for monitoring characteristics of the user
3 includes means for monitoring a degree of force exerted by the user
4 on a manual input device as the user inputs text.

31. (Cancelled)

1 32. (Currently Amended) An information system under
2 affective control ~~as in claim 1~~, comprising:
3 an application program with which a user is actively engaged;
4 means for determining the apparent affective state of the user;
5 and
6 means for changing the operation of the application program

Appln. No. 09/528,254
Amendment dated September 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed May 10, 2004

7 responsive to the apparent affective state of the user;

8 wherein the means for determining the apparent affective state
9 of the user comprises a manual input device capable of measuring a
10 degree of force applied by the user to the manual input device.

1 33. (Currently Amended) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 32, wherein the manual input device
3 comprises a keyboard capable of measuring a degree of force
4 applied by the user to a key on the keyboard.

1 34. (Currently Amended) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 32, wherein the manual input device
3 comprises a computer mouse capable of measuring a degree of force
4 applied by the user to a button on the mouse.

1 35. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining
3 the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for
4 analyzing aspects of speech of the user.

1 36. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing
3 aspects of speech includes means for measuring the timing of
4 utterance of the voice of the user.

1 37. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing
3 aspects of speech includes means for measuring the quality of the
4 voice of the user.

Appln. No. 09/528,254
Amendment dated September 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed May 10, 2004

1 38. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 35, wherein the means for analyzing
3 aspects of speech includes means for measuring the utterance pitch
4 contour of the voice of the user.

1 39. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining
3 the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for
4 measuring autonomic responses of the user.

1 40. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 39, wherein the means for measuring
3 autonomic responses of the user comprises means for measuring
4 characteristics of the skin of the user.

1 41. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 39, wherein the means for measuring
3 autonomic responses of the user comprises means for measuring
4 characteristics of the eye of the user.

1 42. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 41, wherein the means for measuring
3 characteristics of the eye of the user measures dilation of the eye of
4 the user.

1 43. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 41, wherein the means for measuring
3 characteristics of the eye of the user measures a rate at which the
4 user blinks the eye.

Appln. No. 09/528,254

Amendment dated September 10, 2004

Reply to Office Action mailed May 10, 2004

1 44. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining
3 the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for
4 analyzing facial expressions of the user.

1 45. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 44, wherein the means for analyzing
3 facial expressions of the user comprises a video camera.

1 46. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining
3 the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for
4 analyzing gestures of the user.

1 47. (Previously Presented) An information system under
2 affective control as in claim 1, wherein the means for determining
3 the apparent affective state of the user comprises means for
4 detecting marking by the user of text entered by the user.